

OHIO BUREAU OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION TURNS TO SNOWFLAKE'S DATA CLOUD TO BETTER UNDERSTAND ITS CONSTITUENTS

STATE AGENCY



Bureau of Workers' Compensation

COMPANY Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation
LOCATION Columbus, Ohio

SNOWFLAKE WORKLOADS USED



The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (OBWC) is Ohio's exclusive provider of workers' compensation insurance. OBWC serves 257,000 employers and is considered one of the largest state-run insurance systems in the United States. To support a variety of operational and business use cases, OBWC ingests and analyzes large amounts of policy, claim, fraud, actuarial, and healthcare data.

STORY HIGHLIGHTS:

Native SQL support and fully managed infrastructure

Switching to Snowflake frees up OBWC's technical talent to answer questions that were previously unanswered.

Snowflake Partner Network

Connecting dbt and Tableau to Snowflake helps OBWC's data team support more data-driven use cases with less complexity.

Near-infinite scaling of storage and compute

Snowflake's multi-cluster shared data architecture enables virtually unlimited scalability for OBWC.

CHALLENGE:

Using data to understand employers, workers, and providers

OBWC's data journey began more than 20 years ago with the implementation of a mainframe database management system. In 2015, OBWC transitioned to an on-premises SQL database, but storage limitations, resource contention, and infrastructure maintenance inhibited the agency from using data to its full potential. The data analytics team really wanted to understand the stories of the employers, injured workers, and providers that OBWC serves and how those stories were changing.

Expanding OBWC's on-premises database would have required considerable effort and expense. Seeking a more scalable data environment, OBWC's data team began planning a cloud migration strategy.

SOLUTION:

A platform for scalable workers' compensation insights

Snowflake's native SQL support and fully managed infrastructure accelerated OBWC's cloud migration project while enabling the data team to simultaneously handle new BI requests. Its extensive network of connectors, drivers, programming languages, and utilities helped OBWC scale its development initiatives and reduce manual coding.

Snowflake's multi-cluster shared data architecture with virtually unlimited scalability solved OBWC's data storage and compute challenges. Snowflake's affordable cloud rates made it feasible for OBWC to load billions of additional records on a nightly basis. Most incremental loads can now be done in bulk because Snowflake can ingest it all without any worry.

10 TB

Amount of data stored in Snowflake

Billions

Number of rows of data loaded into Snowflake each day

3x

Faster run time of SQL jobs

Successfully migrating to Snowflake freed up technical talent to focus on answering questions that were previously unanswered. Snowflake enables OBWC to increase their maturity in how they present information, once that's about the meaningful business impacts to the agency and its customers.

What Snowflake seamlessly supports now would have taken a completely new build in OBWC's previous on-premises solution, which would've cost multiple times more and offered less flexibility.

RESULTS:

Reducing complexity while supporting more data-driven use cases

Architecting on Snowflake allows OBWC's data team to support more data, users, and workloads with less system complexity. This enabled them to wipe out hundreds of jobs in their scheduler, and support their data environment to be a lot simpler from a management and infrastructure perspective.

Jobs also run faster and require less oversight. For one of OBWC's largest batch jobs runs—instead of taking over three hours with the previous architecture—switching to Snowflake shaved two hours off of warehouse SQL execution.

Powering self-service analytics across OBWC

Tapping into the ecosystem of technology and integration partners that surrounds Snowflake's platform helps OBWC accelerate innovation. Data teams at OBWC can efficiently attack complex problems and simplify things for the business. Connecting dbt to Snowflake makes it easier for the team to build dimensional models and Tableau enables self-service data access without custom SQL coding.

OBWC's performant, scalable self-service analytics engine bolsters decision making across actuarial, medical, claims, and other departments.

Securely collaborating with other government agencies

Snowflake reader accounts provide a convenient way to securely share data sets with other agencies. For example, OBWC relies on Snowflake reader accounts to share data from its Safety & Hygiene Department with the Ohio Department of Administrative Services. OBWC is able to work with another state agency and securely provide public data through Snowflake that feeds their BI infrastructure.

There are many other avenues for OBWC to leverage its data through Snowflake, enabling data teams to answer questions in a way that wasn't possible before. OBWC is also actively working to provide recommendations and augment the work of claims analysts who are trying to determine claim causation.

FUTURE:

Advancing machine learning and application development with Snowflake

OBWC will leverage dimensional models to support machine learning (ML) initiatives aimed at rapidly identifying fraud and pinpointing claim causation. Data from **Snowflake Marketplace** will help the team build even more impactful ML models.

Snowflake support of Python through its **Snowpark feature** will allow OBWC to further streamline its data processing workloads and expedite innovative work, enabling the business to run machine learning algorithms.

OBWC's data team also sees how the Snowflake Native Application Framework and Streamlit Integration feature could be on their roadmap. It could enable OBWC to use Snowflake in a way that's radically different compared to previous on-premises databases.

ABOUT SNOWFLAKE

Snowflake enables every organization to mobilize their data with Snowflake's Data Cloud. Customers use the Data Cloud to unite siloed data, discover and securely share data, and execute diverse analytic workloads. Wherever data or users live, Snowflake delivers a single data experience that spans multiple clouds and geographies. Thousands of customers across many industries, including 510 of the 2022 Forbes Global 2000 (G2K) as of July 31, 2022, use Snowflake Data Cloud to power their businesses.

Learn more at [snowflake.com](https://www.snowflake.com)